

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-50. (cancelled)

51. (currently amended) The device of claim [[67]] 54, wherein the collection strip comprises a capillary matrix adapted for rapid wicking of fluid from a fluid source to the assay strip.

52. (currently amended) The device of claim [[67]] 54, wherein the fluid source is an oral cavity.

53. (currently amended) The device of claim [[67]] 54, wherein the second portion of the collection strip is one of a paddle-shape and a substantially bulbous shape.

54. (previously presented) A device for assay of oral fluid, comprising:
an assay portion housing a lateral flow assay strip, the assay strip containing at least one reagent that is used to detect one of the presence and absence of at least one analyte in a fluid;
and
a neck portion extending from the assay portion, the neck portion forming a channel for delivery of fluid to the assay strip, the channel being defined by a first, narrow part proximal to the assay portion and a second part including an opening for receiving the oral fluid, wherein the second part includes a channel width that is substantially wider than the channel width at the narrow end;
a collection strip in fluid communication with the lateral assay strip, the collection strip having a first portion disposed within the channel and a second portion protruding outwardly from the neck portion opening; and
a blocking strip coupled between and in flow communication with the lateral flow assay strip and the collection strip.

55. (currently amended) The device of claim 54, wherein the ~~wicking member~~ second portion of the collection strip is paddle shaped.

56. (previously presented) The device of claim 54, wherein the width of the neck portion tapers from the opening width to the narrow end width.

57. (cancelled)

58. (currently amended) The device of claim [[67]] 54, wherein the lateral flow assay strip is an immunochromatography strip.

59. (cancelled)

60. (currently amended) The device of claim [[67]] 54, wherein the reagent is a binding partner which bears a detectable label.

61. (previously presented) The device of claim 60, wherein the reagent is an enzyme labeled binding partner.

62. (currently amended) The device of claim [[67]] 54, wherein the reagent comprises one of an antigen and an antibody.

63. (previously presented) The device of claim 54, wherein the blocking strip contains at least one blocking agent or a buffer.

64. (cancelled)

65. (previously presented) The device of claim 54, wherein the collection strip is adsorbent.

66-68. (cancelled)

69. (currently amended) The device of claim [[68]] 54, wherein the blocking strip contains a blocking agent or a buffer.

70. (currently amended) The device of claim 69, wherein the buffer is to adjust the pH of the oral fluid sample.

71. (previously presented) The device of claim 69, wherein the lateral flow assay strip further comprising conjugate strip coupled between and in flow communication with the blocking strip and the lateral flow assay strip, wherein the conjugate strip contains a labeled binding partner for at least one type of antibody in the oral fluid.

72. (currently amended) The device of claim [[67]] 54, wherein the lateral flow assay strip further comprising conjugate strip coupled between and in flow communication with the collection strip and the lateral flow assay strip, wherein the conjugate strip contains a labeled binding partner for at least one type of antibody in the oral fluid.

73. (currently amended) The device of claim [[67]] 54, wherein ~~at least one antibody~~ the analyte is selected from the group consisting of antibodies to HIV, antibodies to HTLV, antibodies to Helicobacter pylori, antibodies to hepatitis, antibodies to measles, antibodies to mumps, antibodies to rubella, cotinine, cocaine, benzoylecgonine, benzodiazepine, tetrahydrocannabinol, nicotine, ethanol theophylline, phenytoin, acetaminophen, lithium, diazepam, nortryptiline, secobarbital, phenobarbital, theophylline, testosterone, estradiol, 17-hydroxyprogesterone, progesterone, thyroxine, thyroid stimulating hormone, follicle stimulating hormone, luteinizing hormone, transforming growth factor alpha, epidermal growth factor, insulin-like growth factor I and II, growth hormone release inhibiting factor, IGA and sex hormone binding globulin and other analytes including glucose, ~~cholesterol~~, caffeine, cholesterol, corticosteroid binding globulin, PSA, or DHEA binding glycoprotein, or combinations thereof.

74. (currently amended) The device of claim [[67]] 54, wherein ~~at least one antibody~~ the analyte is selected from the group consisting of antibodies to HIV.

75. (currently amended) The device of claim [[67]] 54, wherein ~~at least one antibody~~ the analyte is selected from the group consisting of antibodies to Hepatitis.

76-78. (cancelled)

79. (currently amended) A kit for the detection of antibodies in oral fluids comprising:
an device of claim [[67;]] 54, and separately
a buffer, reagent, or detection reagent for collection and lateral flow
chromatography of an oral fluid.

80. (currently amended) A kit for the detection of antibodies in oral fluids comprising:
an device of claim 71[[;]], and separately
a buffer, reagent, or detection reagent for collection and lateral flow
chromatography of an oral fluid.